

Tree/Shrub Pruning

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 660



DEFINITION

Tree or shrub pruning is removing all or parts of selected branches from trees and shrubs.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of the practice is to improve the function, appearance, and quality of the plants. Safety is also a reason for pruning trees and shrubs.

This practice applies to crop trees of high value as well as trees planted for aesthetics,

wildlife, recreation, windbreaks, and other purposes.

The timing of the pruning operation should be appropriate to the growth characteristics of the plants. In addition, nesting and breeding requirements of birds should be considered. Other wildlife species may or may not be adversely effected by pruning. In urban areas, special attention must be given to safety precautions.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.